

California Polytechnic State University

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Cal Poly Announces First Finalist in Athletics Director Search**

SAN LUIS OBISPO - Cal Poly has announced the first finalist in its search for a new Athletics Director: Steven P. Holton, who has led intercollegiate athletics programs at Northern Arizona University and Long Beach State.

Holton was chosen as part of an ongoing national search by Cal Poly involving a review of more than 70 applications.

"We're very pleased to announce Steve Holton as a finalist for the position," said Larry Kelley, chair of the search committee. "The search committee was encouraged by his interest in Cal Poly and the caliber of his experience. We're looking for candidates who are eager to work with the strong leadership we already have in place in our athletics programs, and that's certainly the case with Mr. Holton."

Holton will meet with Cal Poly athletics boosters and university administrators at a private reception Wednesday, Dec. 1, and will have a full day of interviews on campus Thursday, Dec. 2.

Holton has served as director of intercollegiate athletics at NAU Flagstaff and associate director of intercollegiate athletics at Long Beach State. He came to Long Beach after serving as director of athletic marketing and promotions at the University of Houston.

He holds a master's degree in sports administration from Ohio University in Athens, and a bachelor's degree in political science from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Mich.

This is the only scheduled interview at this time, and the search will remain open until the position is filled, Kelley said.

The new director will succeed John McCutcheon, who accepted a similar position at the University of Massachusetts earlier this year, after serving nearly 12 years as Cal Poly's director of athletics. Interim Athletics Director Alison Cone is heading Cal Poly's 20 Division I intercollegiate sports programs.

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